(c) the details of the steps contemplated, if any, to enforce strict ethical norms in medical treatment by private nursing homes; and

(d) the details of specific steps contemplated to address the concern about lacunae in registration laws which provide easy escape for medical practitioners who malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government, through the Medical Council of India and the State Medical Councils, has been trying to regulate the professional conduct of registered medical practitioners in the country. The complaints of medical negligence by doctors are dealt with by Ethical Committee of Medical Council of India and/or the State Medical Councils.

(c) While the Govt. has notified the Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 on 11th March, 2002 which, *inter-alia*, among seeks to list the acts of commission or omission on the part of physicians which can be viewed as acts of professional misconduct besides prescribing punishment and disciplinary action, the private Nursing Homes are registered by State Govt. which have enacted legislation to govern the conditions of their registration and related matters.

(d) All Medical Practitioners are required to possess a medical qualification included in the schedule to the IMC Act, 1956 and also meet other requirements as prescribed by the Council to be eligible to get registration with the State Medical Council/Medical Council of India to practice medicine in any part of India.

National policy for promoting ISM&H

†1162. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any separate National Policy for promoting the Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy to encourage the indigenous pharmaceuticals;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the aid and incentive extended for encouraging the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy by Government;

(c) whether Government have constituted any Board for Studies of Medicines;

(d) if so, the aims and objectives thereof; and

(e) to what extent this Board has achieved its objective?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Government has approved a separate National Policy on Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy to encourage and develop our systems including pharmaceuticals.

(b) The Policy proposes to seek fiscal incentives and tax concession for ISM industry within overall taxation policy to make them viable and competitive. Further strengthening of education, reorienting research, awareness building and integration have been projected in the new policy.

(c) to (e) The Government has constituted Central Council of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy Central Council to regulate education and practice in Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy and maintain central registers.

Performance of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme

1163. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the performance report of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that Uttar Pradesh has 80-85 percent of World's polio cases as mentioned by UNICEF's Global Health Division; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that malnutrition, unhygienic conditions and illiteracy is responsible for this disease despite our highly publicized campaigns?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) There is improvement in performance of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme during January, 2003. A total of 1632,50,648 children were given oral polio drops during January, 2002 where as 1641,50,254 children were given polio drops during January, 2003.